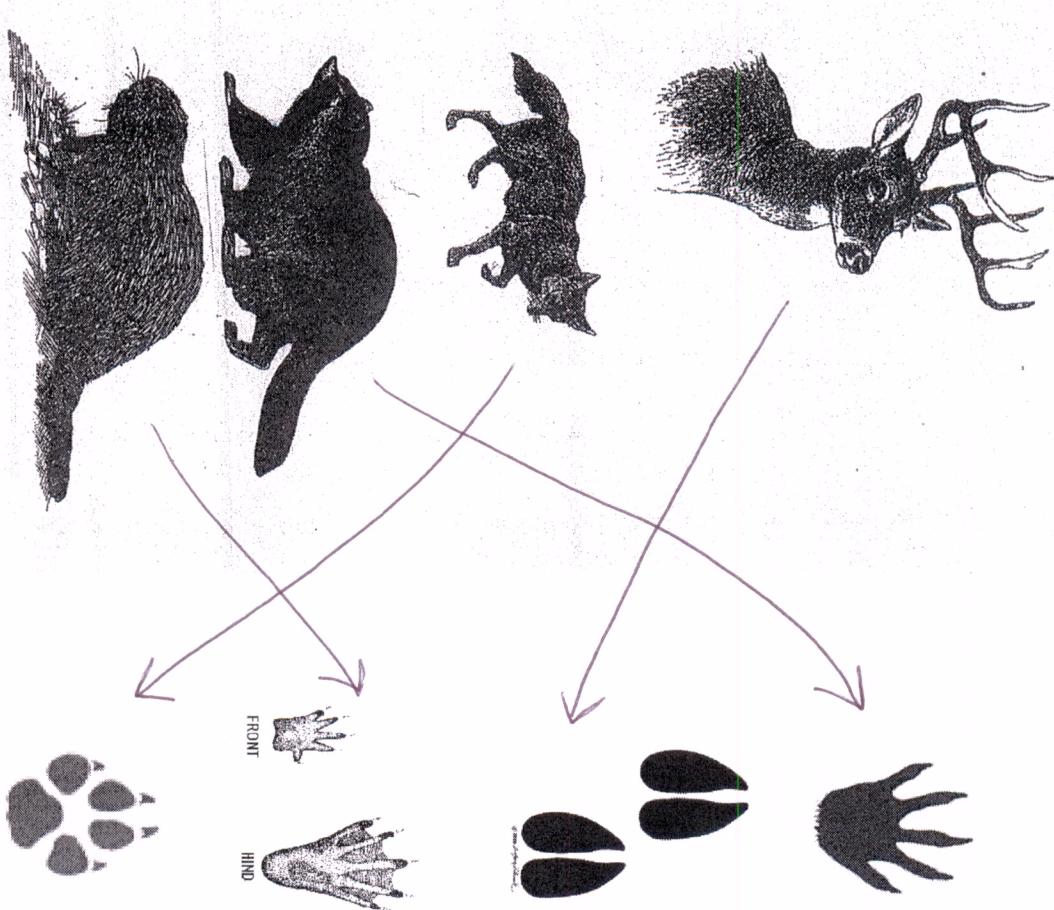


Animal Tracks

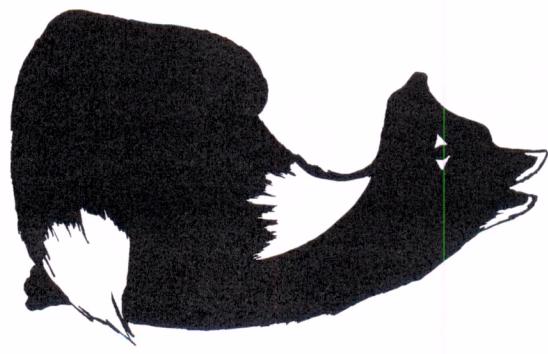
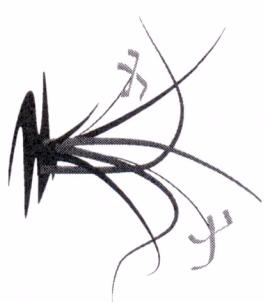
Draw a line connecting the animal to its footprint.



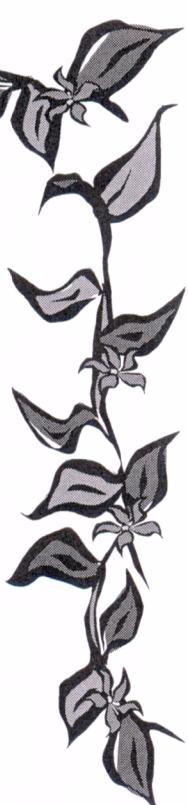
Nixon Park

Scavenger Hunt

3rd grade and up



Learn to protect and save
our wildlife habitat.

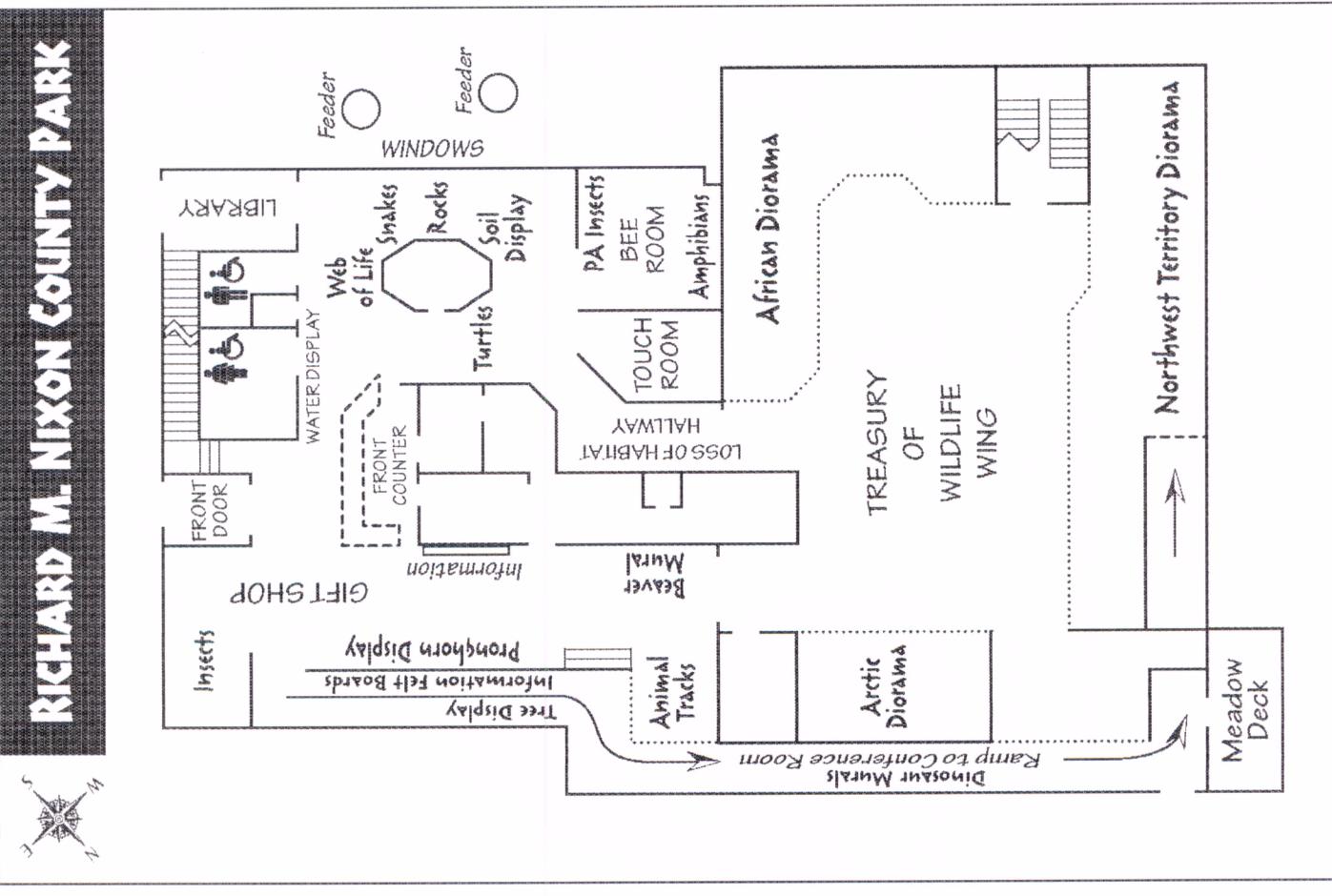


Name: _____

ANSWER
KEY

Floor Plan of the Nature Center

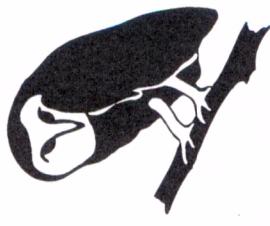
RICHARD M. NIXON COUNTY PARK



Lower Ramp

Owls of Pennsylvania

Owls hunt by sound. Where are their ears?



ON THE SIDE OF THEIR HEAD

Check the ways owl feet are special:

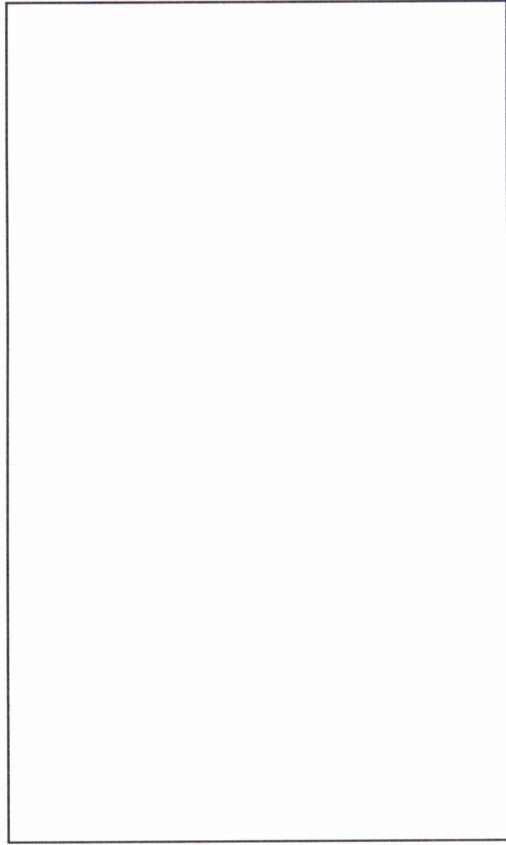
- They have feathers.
- They have sharp talons.
- One toe can go forwards or backwards.
- They hold tight while owls hang upside down.

How far can owls rotate their head?

90° 180° 270° 360°

A circle is
360°

Which owl is your favorite? Sketch it and label it!



lower Ramp- Dinosaur

answer the questions by observing the mural.

Were insects around when dinosaurs ruled the land?

Yes

No

Were all dinosaurs larger than you?

Yes

No

Can you find one prehistoric animal that still around today?

TURTLE

How are dinosaur's born?

THEY HATCH FROM EGGS

Describe the plants of the Triassic Era shown on the
dinosaur wall.

FERNS

PALMS

TREES

LUSH

FLOWERS

Name three insect relatives shown in the display.

Spider, millipede,

centipede

Scorpion



Some insects avoid being eaten by disguising themselves as a natural object such as a twig.

Can you name three other insect disguises?

camouflage, mimicry, and

eye spots

Some insects take a more aggressive approach. Some moths use eye spots on their wings to startle their predator. Poisonous insects advertise their presence with warning colors.

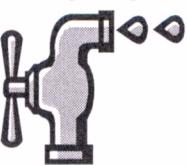
What is mimicry? the art of imitating.

Name one mimic: Viceroy butterfly



Water Display

What is a watershed? A place where



each drop of water runs off the land
or soaks into the ground to springs,
streams, and wetlands.

What is the name of the watershed in the mural?

East Branch Codorus Creek

How many gallons does Lake Redman hold?

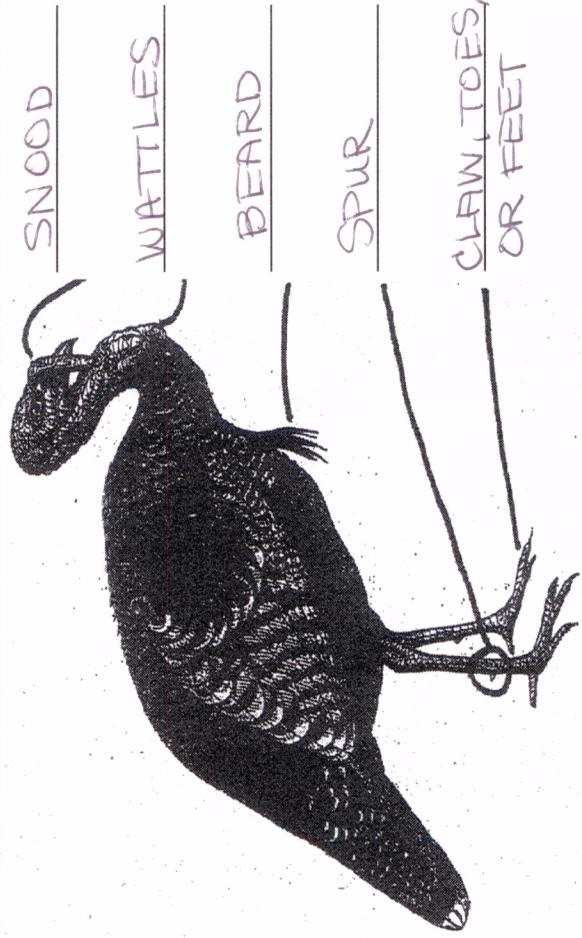
31 Billion



Lower Ramp Turkey Exhibit

The Wild Turkey is the largest game bird in North America. They forage mostly on the ground for seeds, nuts, acorns, and insects. At night they roost in trees. In 1776 when our national bird was being selected, Benjamin Franklin opposed the bald eagle, which he called “a bird of bad moral character”, and instead proposed the Wild Turkey be our national bird.

Label the parts of the turkey.



The water meter measures how much water is used each day at Nixon Park.

How much water was used yesterday?
_____ GAL

How much water has been used today?
_____ GAL

Is this a male or female? How do you know?

-Gobbler (not a hen)
-Beard, spurs, long snood



Lower Ramp Antler Exhibit

Find out the difference between antlers and horns!

Put an “A” in front of the phrases that best describe antlers.

Put an “H” in front of those that best describe horns.

A Are shed every year

H Are attached for life

H Made of keratin, like our hair

A Made of bone

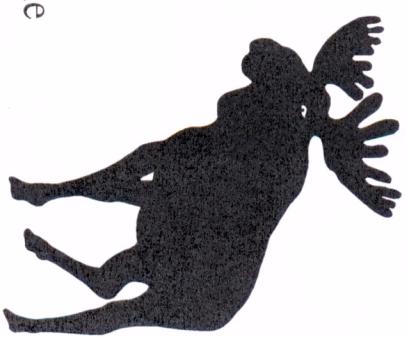
A Found on males of the deer family

A Found on male and female caribou

H Found on sheep, goats, and antelope



Pronghorn



Moose



Pennsylvania's Snakes

Are snakes warm-blooded or cold-blooded? What does that mean? They rely on outside sources of heat.

Do snakes have a backbone? Yes

A snake uses his tongue to taste & smell

Are snakes herbivores, omnivores, or carnivores? What do they eat?

insects, amphibians, reptiles, birds, small mammals, fish...

How many different kinds of snakes can be found in Pennsylvania? 21

How many species are endangered? 2

Pronghorn

Rocks!



What colors are the Gettysburg Porcelanite (49)?

BLUE, GREEN

Conglomerates are sedimentary rocks made up of many smaller rocks, such as the High Terrace Gravel (54). Can you find two more conglomerates on the rock wall?

NEW OXFORD HELLAM
CONGLOMERATE (47) CONGLOMERATE (19)

It takes 500 years for one inch of soil to form!

Soil layers are called HORIZONS.

The loosening and movement of soil by wind and water is called EROSION.

List three animals, and how many of them might be found in a square meter of soil thirty centimeters deep.

1 BOX TURTLE

47 EARTH WORMS

350 SPIDERS

400 MILIPEDES
450 BEETLE LARVAE

TREE DISPLAY (on the ramp)

How old is the oldest tree on display? 336

On the white oak, what happened in 1839?

FIRST BICYCLE INVENTED

Look at the poster. What happened in 1930 and how is it shown?

A BURN MARK FROM A FIRE

What 3 factors influence the size of the tree? WATER

NUTRIENTS COMPETITION

Label the parts of the tree!



Birds of Feather....

Flock Together.

(Animal Tracks Area)



Match the type of animal with its group name.

Bird Flock

Owls Romp
Porcupine Convocation
Rhinos Pickle
Eagles Parliament
Otters Charm
Finches Crash

Amphibians!

List 2 reasons why amphibians are important.

Part of the food web
Indicators of a healthy environment

List 4 habitats where amphibians live.

Marsh

Forest

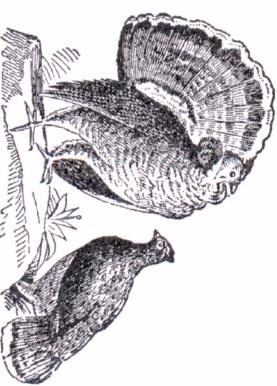


River

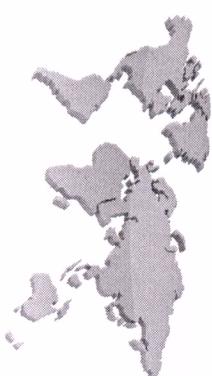
Pond

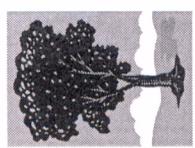
What is the only continent where amphibians do not live?

Antarctica



Pennsylvania's state bird is the Ruffed Grouse. In the spring the male attracts females to his territory by raising his ruffs and crest, fanning his tail, and beating his wings to make a hollow, rapid, drumming noise.





Phenology!

(In the Bee Room)



Phenology is a branch of Science dealing with the relations between Climate and periodic biologic phenomena.



State Symbols

Most Pennsylvanian's know that our state mammal is the white-tail deer. But can you find the rest of our state symbols that are located throughout the Nature Center? Write the common name next to the symbol.

HUH?? THIS IS JUST ALL THE STUFF THAT GOES ON IN THE DIFFERENT SEASONS!!

Circle the current season.

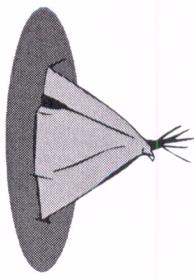
List or draw one activity you do in each season.
Spring Summer Fall Winter

Bird?	<u>Ruffed Grouse</u> (ram's step)
Flower?	<u>Mountain Laurel</u> ('between' (restrooms
Tree?	<u>Eastern Hemlock</u> (Beaver Display)
Fish?	<u>Brook Trout</u> (Endangered Hallucy)
Fossil?	<u>Trilobite</u> (Dinosaur Wall)
Insect?	<u>Firefly</u> (Next to front desk)

Name one natural thing that happens this month, according to the display:

Loss of Habitat

Label the four items necessary for wildlife in its habitat. Use the pictures as clues.



SPACE

FOOD

WATER

SHELTER



How many different kinds of turtles live in Pennsylvania? 14



Circle the correct answers

Turtles lay or bask in the sun to _____.



Find food

Digest food

Help eggs develop

Have fun

Warm-up

True and False Questions: Circle T for true or F for false.

T F A turtle's backbone is part of its shell.

T F Turtles can crawl out of their shell.

T F Turtles make good pets.

T F Turtles have a home range or territory.

Habitat loss is the number one reason for wildlife decline.

Pick your favorite Pennsylvania animal. Name it, and list its habitat needs:

Look at the Pennsylvania turtle information cards. Which turtle is your favorite and why?

Pennsylvania Turtles

Archaeology: Digging into the past

(across from the turtle display)



Describe the climate and environment in the earliest era depicted in the archaeology display.

Ice age tundra

Snowy

What time period was the Woodland Era?

1000 BC to 1550 AD

What did the Shenk's Ferry people call themselves?

No one knows

What tribes were here during the Contact Period?

Shawnee, Susquehannocks,
Conektoga, Conoy

Archaeologists unravel the secrets of the past by looking at clues left behind by ancient peoples. This collection of artifacts was collected locally by a young boy many years ago. He carefully labeled each item and did not mix up his collection, making it much more valuable to archaeologists.

Exotic, Threatened, Endangered, Extinct, & Recovered

(In the Loss of Habitat Hallway)

What 3 factors contributed to the otter's decline?

1. hunting
2. Pollution
3. Habitat destruction



What can you do in your backyard to help wildlife?

1. Plant native trees
 2. Do not mow
 3. Plant wildflowers
 4. Put up nesting boxes
 5. Prevent erosion
- When did the last passenger pigeon die?

1914



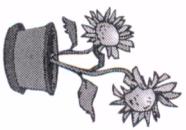
Should piranha live in Lake Redman? No



Northwest Territory



Meadow Deck



(Between Arctic and Northwest)
Step outside onto our deck over-
looking the garden.



Close your eyes and use your sense of hearing. Write down any sounds you hear.

The best way to stay alive is to avoid danger all together. Several animals displayed here have “early warning” systems. List three animals and their special survival skill .

Animal
Squirrel

Body Part
big eyes

Benefit
can see well

Draw a picture of what you see.

Hooves are designed for animals that run. Caribou have splayed hooves which provide sure footing on ice, snow, and spongy bogs. Can you find three other animals in the display that have hooves?

Mountain Goat

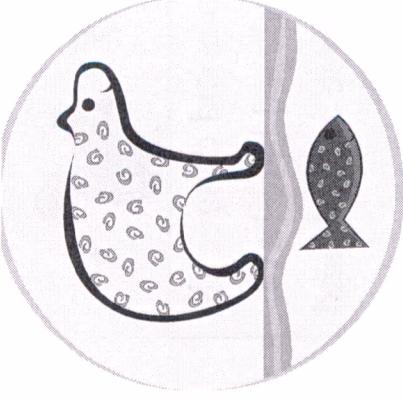
White-tailed Deer

Mule Deer

Moose



Arctic Adventure



The diorama depicts springtime, which may last only 8 weeks, and temperatures remain about 50 °F. List two ways you can tell it is spring.

Abundant fruit
24 hrs of Sunlight

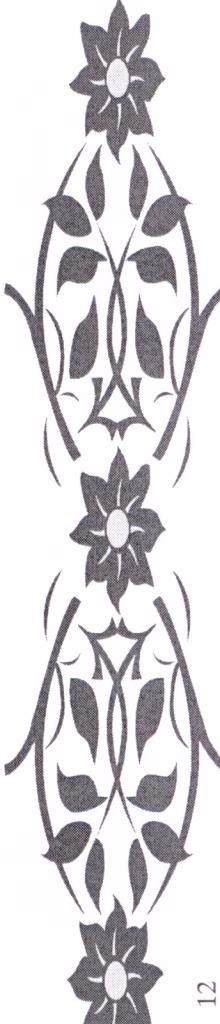
Name two predatory birds shown here

Snowy Owl, Gyr falcon

Does the male or female walrus have tusks? Both

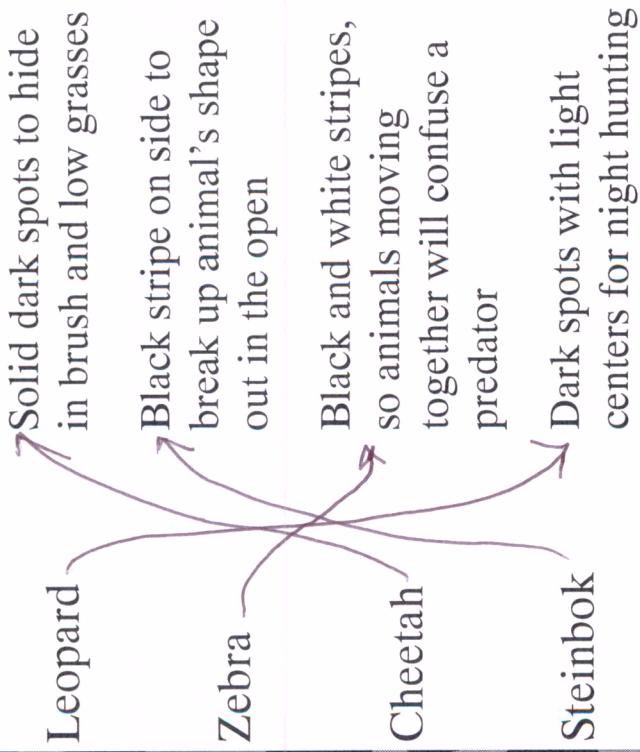
Name one country with Arctic habitat. Canada, USA, Russia

The polar bear's white fur provides camouflage as he hunts seals on the pack ice, but when the snow melts his white fur stands out! Name an arctic animal whose fur or feathers change color with the seasons: Ermine



African Safari

Match the African animal to the camouflage pattern it uses to survive.



Challenge Question:

What adult animal in the diorama has no natural predators— except humans— in Africa?

Elephant